

cyber emergencies. We applaud your ongoing leadership on this and other key technology matters in the United State Senate.

Microsoft is deeply engaged in security matters. Our Trustworthy Computing Initiative, recently announced by Bill Gates, places a primary emphasis on security, privacy and reliability across our products, services and operations.

We agree with you that, in case of a national cyber emergency, the Federal Government should draw upon the brightest minds in industry in its efforts to protect Federal agencies and other critical entities. In fact, on September 11th our Chief Security Officer was called to active military duty to support the government's response to the attacks. He recently left Microsoft to become the Vice Chairman of the President's Critical Infrastructure Protection Board.

We view your focus on a National Emergency Technology Guard, like our Trustworthy Computing Initiative, as a means to strengthen America's cybersecurity via better trained personnel.

We thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this matter and commend you once again for your ongoing leadership in cybersecurity.

Sincerely,

JACK KRUMHOLTZ,
Director, Federal Government Affairs,
Associated General Counsel.

AOL TIME WARNER,
Washington, DC, March 19, 2002.

Hon. RON WYDEN,

Hon. GEORGE ALLEN,

United States Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WYDEN AND SENATOR ALLEN: On behalf of AOL Time Warner, I would like to express my appreciation for your efforts and leadership in the area of antiterrorism and disaster response, including the development of legislation to address this critical issue.

September 11th forever changed the way our country thinks about crisis response and emergency management, and has made all of us realize the importance of working together as a team when disaster strikes. Like so many other organizations and individuals across the country and around the world, we at AOL Time Warner watched with horror as the tragic events of that day unfolded—and did what we could to contribute to the immediate needs of the emergency response personnel, from financial and humanitarian assistance to technical support.

Since that time, we have participated in numerous discussions, including several ongoing initiatives led by the Administration, about both how to prevent such a catastrophe in the future and how to mitigate the effects of such a disaster should the unthinkable occur again. It is clear from these discussions and from our experiences on that day, that one of the most critical objectives in formulating a disaster response strategy is to ensure the functioning of our communications infrastructure in the event of an emergency.

Your legislation, "The Science Technology Emergency Mobilization Act," recognizes the important role played by volunteers—like those from our company and countless and countless others across the nation—in providing technical assistance to enhance communication in times of crisis, and creates a mechanism for coordinating and deploying such assistance in a systematic fashion during a national emergency. We believe that this type of voluntary partnership between industry and government is vital to ensuring that disaster response and recovery efforts are coordinated and effective.

We are grateful for your work on this issue of such importance to our nation, and look

forward to continuing to work with both Congress and the Administration on matters relating to security and critical infrastructure.

Sincerely,

SUSAN A. BROPHY,
Senior Vice President, Domestic Public Policy,
AOL Time Warner.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 228—HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA AND ITS WORLD WAR II CREW ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSIONING OF THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 228

Whereas March 20, 2002, marks the 60th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. South Dakota;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota and her crew served with distinction throughout World War II;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota served in many of the major battles of the Pacific Campaign, including the engagements in support of the battle for Guadalcanal, the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands, the invasions of the Gilbert Islands and Marshall Islands, the Marianas Campaign, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the invasions of Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines, the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and attacks on the home islands of Japan;

Whereas, from February through August of 1943, the U.S.S. South Dakota operated in the Atlantic Ocean, and served there with the British Home Fleet;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota and her crew became the most decorated American battleship of World War II, having been awarded 13 battle stars;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota became one of only four battleships to be awarded the Navy Unit Commendation;

Whereas Admiral Chester W. Nimitz used the U.S.S. South Dakota as his flagship for the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay;

Whereas the U.S.S. South Dakota served as the flagship for Admiral William F. Halsey on the return of the Navy's Third Fleet to the United States after World War II ended; and

Whereas the memory of those who served and those who died on the vessel are honored at the U.S.S. South Dakota Memorial in Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) remembers the service of the U.S.S. South Dakota and its World War II crew on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. South Dakota;

(2) commends the members of the World War II crew of the U.S.S. South Dakota for their dedicated service to the United States during that war;

(3) pays solemn tribute to those who were killed or wounded on the decks of the U.S.S. South Dakota; and

(4) honors the lasting legacy of the great fighting spirit of the U.S.S. South Dakota and its crew.

THE U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution honoring the 60th anniversary of the commissioning of the USS *South Dakota*.

The USS *South Dakota* was the lead ship of a class of 35,000-ton battleships and was officially commissioned on March 20, 1942. Few ships in the history of the United States Navy have had such a distinguished service record or have been as integral to the defense of our Nation. The Resolution I am submitting today honors both the USS *South Dakota* and her dedicated crew.

The USS *South Dakota* served throughout World War II, and became the most decorated American battleship of the war having been awarded 13 battle stars. In addition, the South Dakota became one of only four battleships to receive the Navy Unit Commendation.

While the South Dakota spent the majority of its service in World War II in the Pacific, it did serve in the Atlantic along with the British Home Fleet from February to July 1943. However, no one can deny that the crew truly distinguished themselves in the Pacific Campaign. Very few of the battles fought in that theater of operation occurred without the support of the USS *South Dakota*. In fact, the South Dakota saw action at the battle for Guadalcanal, the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands, the invasions of the Gilbert Islands and Marshall Islands, the Marianas Campaign, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the invasions of Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines, the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and attacks on the home islands of Japan. All told, the USS *South Dakota* was credited with sinking three enemy ships and downing 64 enemy aircraft during the war.

The proudest moment for the crew may have been when the South Dakota served as the flagship for Admiral Chester W. Nimitz during the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. For the ship, its crew, and our Nation, this signalled the end of World War II and our complete victory over the forces of fascism. Following the surrender of Japan, the South Dakota was the flagship for Admiral William F. Halsey during the return of the fleet to the United States.

On the 60th Anniversary of its commissioning, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the crew of the USS *South Dakota* for their service to our Nation. Their contributions to the freedoms we enjoy today is a debt we can never fully repay. I ask my colleagues to join with me in remembering the USS *South Dakota* and honoring the lasting legacy of her crew.

SENATE RESOLUTION 229—CONDEMNING THE INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN SUICIDE BOMBINGS

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs.

HUTCHISON, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 229

Whereas on October 24, 2001, the Senate approved amendment No. 1941 to H.R. 2506 of the One Hundred Seventh Congress expressing the sense of the Senate that suicide bombings are a horrific form of terrorism that must be universally condemned as terrorist acts;

Whereas it has been reported that an influential High Islamic Council has issued an edict that women should join men as suicide bombers;

Whereas the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a radical offshoot of the Fatah movement, has announced that it has created a special unit for women suicide bombers;

Whereas incidents, including a February 27, 2002, suicide bombing that injured 3 people and a January 27, 2002, suicide bombing that killed 1 person and injured an estimated 150 more, show an alarming trend in the use of women to carry out attacks terrorist against Israel;

Whereas troubling statements have been made suggesting that the involvement of women in carrying out suicide bombings will result in women achieving equal rights with men;

Whereas women throughout the world bravely serve in militaries that act in accordance with international law and custom; and

Whereas the involvement of women in carrying out suicide bombings is contrary to the important role women must play in conflict prevention and resolution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the condemnation of all suicide bombings as terrorist acts, made by the Senate in Senate amendment No. 1941 to H.R. 2506 of the One Hundred Seventh Congress on October 24, 2001;

(2) deplores those acts as contrary to the values and ideals of people everywhere; and

(3) calls on women of the world not to emulate a self-destructive, brutal, and murderous crime.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 10 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing on "Accounting and Investor Protection Issues Raised by Enron and Other Public Companies."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 9:30 a.m. on competition in the local telecommunications marketplace.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on legislative initiatives that would impose limits on the shipments of out-of-State municipal solid waste and authorize State and local governments to exercise flow control. The hearing will be held in SD-406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. to consider the nomination of Randal K. Quarles to be Assistant Secretary for International Affairs of the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 2:00 p.m., for a joint hearing with the House of Representatives' Committee on Veterans Affairs, to hear the legislative presentations of American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Retired Officers Association, the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, and AMVETS. The hearing will take place in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on recruiting and retention in the military services in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2003.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on national security space programs and strategic programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2003.

Witnesses

Panel 1: The Honorable E. C. "Pete" Aldridge, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; the Honorable Peter B. Teets, Under Secretary of the Air Force and Director, National Reconnaissance Office; and General Ralph E. Eberhart, USAF, Commander in Chief, United States Space Command.

Panel 2: Admiral James O. Ellis, Jr., USN, Commander in Chief, United States Strategic Command; Major General Franklin J. Blaisdell, USAF, Director, Nuclear and Counterproliferation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, United States Air Force; and Rear Admiral Dennis M. Dwyer, USN, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, United States Navy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Neil Naraine, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the debate on the energy bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION DISCHARGED AND PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and that the Environment and Public Works Committee be discharged from further consideration of the nomination of J. Paul Gilman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and that the nomination be placed on the Executive Calendar.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 730 through 736, and the nominations on the Secretary's desk under Foreign Service; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate return to legislative session without any intervening action or debate.